

## **FACT SHEET: State Monitoring, Assessment and Reporting Program Grants and Cooperative Agreements**

**Action:** Seeking Pre-proposals for participation in Demonstration of Randomized-design for Assessment of Wadeable Rivers and Streams

**Objective:** Generate statistically valid estimate of the biological health of wadeable rivers and streams at the level II ecoregion scale and aggregate estimates to national scale. Resource limitations preclude estimates at finer scale of resolution (e.g., state scale, watershed) and preclude assessments of other CWA goals (e.g., recreational use).

**Funding:** Approximately \$4 million are available for award under this demonstration. EPA expects to award between 20 and 40 assistance agreements ranging in value from \$50,000 to \$500,000. It is expected that larger awards will go to applicants that represent multiple states while smaller awards will go to applicants covering smaller areas. Applicants who do not have the capacity to implement the project may request EPA provide in-kind/contractor services.

**Scope of work:** Key components of successful pre-proposal:

- Participate in randomize-design by monitoring at sites identified by EPA
- Use nationally consistent suite of indicators and field protocols for macroinvertebrate sampling, habitat characterization, and limited ambient water quality measures
- Collaborate in analysis/interpretation of data

**Implementation:**

- Pre-proposals provide streamlined initial application and allow negotiation of final application
- Applicants' pre-proposals may request funds disbursed directly or, for those that do not have the capacity to implement the project, applicants may request funds in the form of in-kind/contractor services for field sampling and/or laboratory analysis
- Eligible applicants include states and tribes and other organizations eligible for Section 104(b)(3) including interstate commissions and associations, universities, municipalities, non-profit organizations.

**Schedule:**

Nov. 19	Issue request for pre-proposals
Nov-Dec	Hold conference calls by region for clarification and to invite potential applicants to participate in implementation workgroups
Dec. 19	Pre-proposals due
Jan 04	Successful pre-proposals selected
Jan - Mar 04	Training on field protocols
Mar 04	Final awards negotiated
Mar-Oct 04	Field work conducted
Apr 05	Lab analysis completed, validated data available for analysis
Sept 05	Draft report
Dec 05	Final reports

